

**REMARKS****Status of the Claims**

Claims 1 – 14 and 22 are pending in the application, and stand rejected. Claims 16 – 21 are pending, and have been allowed.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 16 - 21.

**Claims 1 - 14 and 22 are Patentable under 35 U.S.C. 102**

Claims 1 – 14 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mayville et al. (US 2002/0189390). Claims 1 and 11 are independent claims. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, which is directed to a cable assembly, recites, in part:

a first arm extending from the elongate body to a distal end in a lateral direction in an unflexed configuration and including a first projection from a first surface of the first arm; and

a first tab member extending in a generally longitudinal direction from the first arm to a distal end when the first arm is in the unflexed configuration, wherein moving the distal end of the first tab member towards the longitudinal axis of the bore flexes the first arm.

Claim 11, which is directed to a terminal connector, recites, in part:

wherein the first tab member and the second tab member each facilitate flexure of the first arm and the second arm, respectively, when the first tab member and the second tab member are moved toward the longitudinal axis of the bore.

The Examiner has indicated that Mayville's shoulder 31 corresponds to the claimed arm, that Mayville's finger 52 corresponds to the claimed projection and that the unnumbered member at the end of finger 52 corresponds to the claimed tab member. Applicant is somewhat confused as to exactly which element of Mayville the Examiner believes corresponds to claim 1's tab member. The tab member of the subject claims is defined as extending in a generally longitudinal direction. As best understood by Applicant, the unnumbered member at the end of finger 52 is a radially, inwardly extending projection at the end of the finger 52. Should the

Examiner maintain this rejection, Applicant respectfully asks that the Examiner clarify exactly which portions of Mayville's body 12 corresponds to the claimed tab member and the claimed projection.

However, in any event, the member at the end of finger 52 cannot be the required tab of the subject claims, because the member at the end of finger 52 is not "extending in a generally longitudinal direction from the first arm." It does not extend from the arm. That is, the member at the end of finger 52 does not extend from Mayville's shoulder 31.

Applicant further submits that (whichever portion of Mayville's body 12 is considered to correspond to the claimed tab member) Mayville fails to disclose that moving the distal end of the tab member toward the longitudinal axis of the bore flexes the arm, as recited by claim 1. Similarly, Mayville fails to disclose that the tab member facilitates flexure of the arm when the tab member is moved toward the longitudinal axis of the bore, as recited by claim 11. Specifically, Mayville's shoulder 31 is a solid, circumferential portion of body 12 having two radially-opposed thickened (or built-up) portions for supporting fingers 52 (see FIG. 5). No portion of Mayville's shoulder 31 flexes. Thus, moving either the finger 52 or the radially projecting element at the end of finger 52 towards the longitudinal axis fails to flex the shoulder 31 of Mayville.

Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. 102 rejection.

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**Conclusion**

Applicant respectfully requests entry of the above amendments. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0733. All claims pending in the application are now deemed to be in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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